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22 September 1966

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
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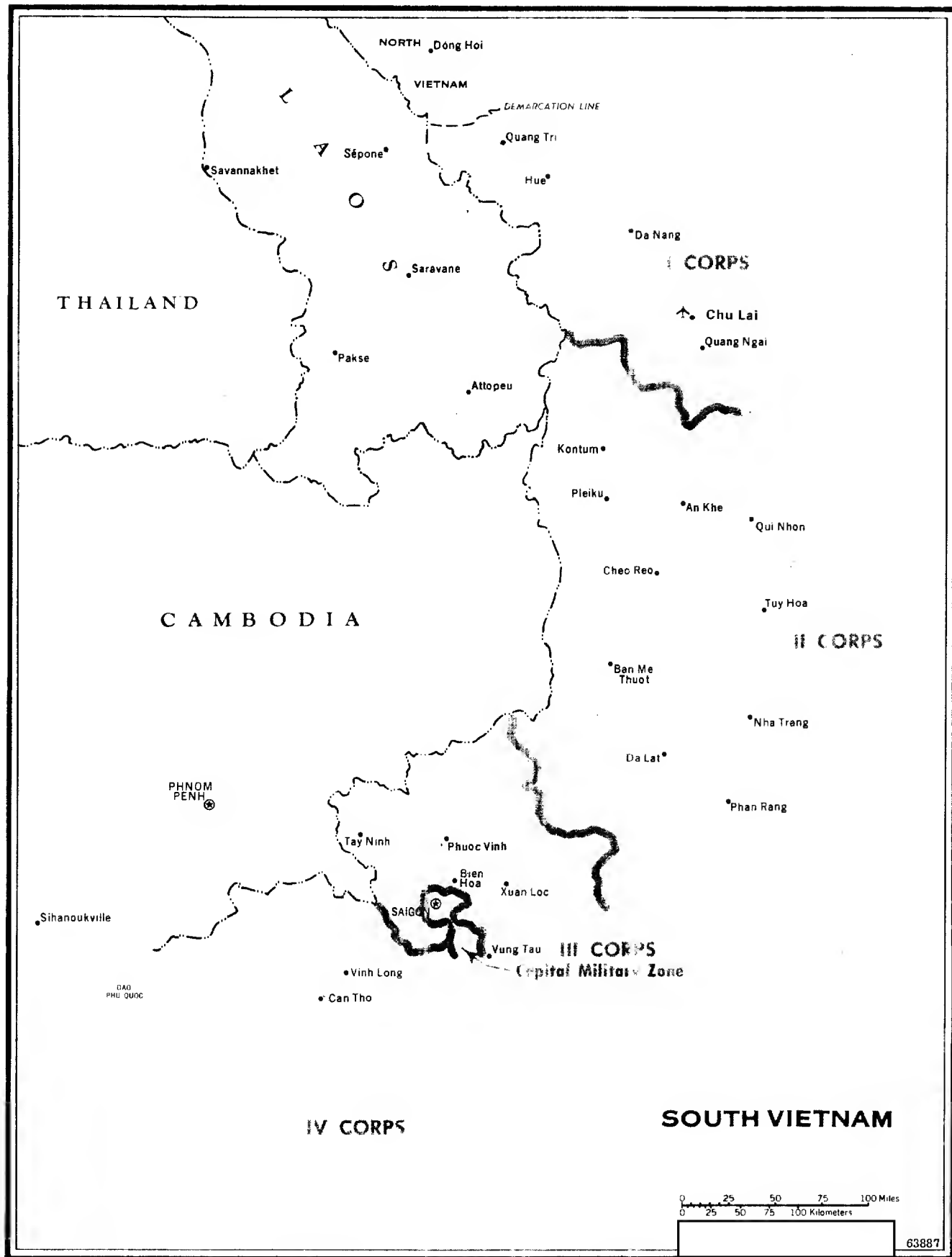
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EDT)

North Vietnamese Military Developments: US and North Vietnamese fighter aircraft fought a record number of air battles on 21 September.

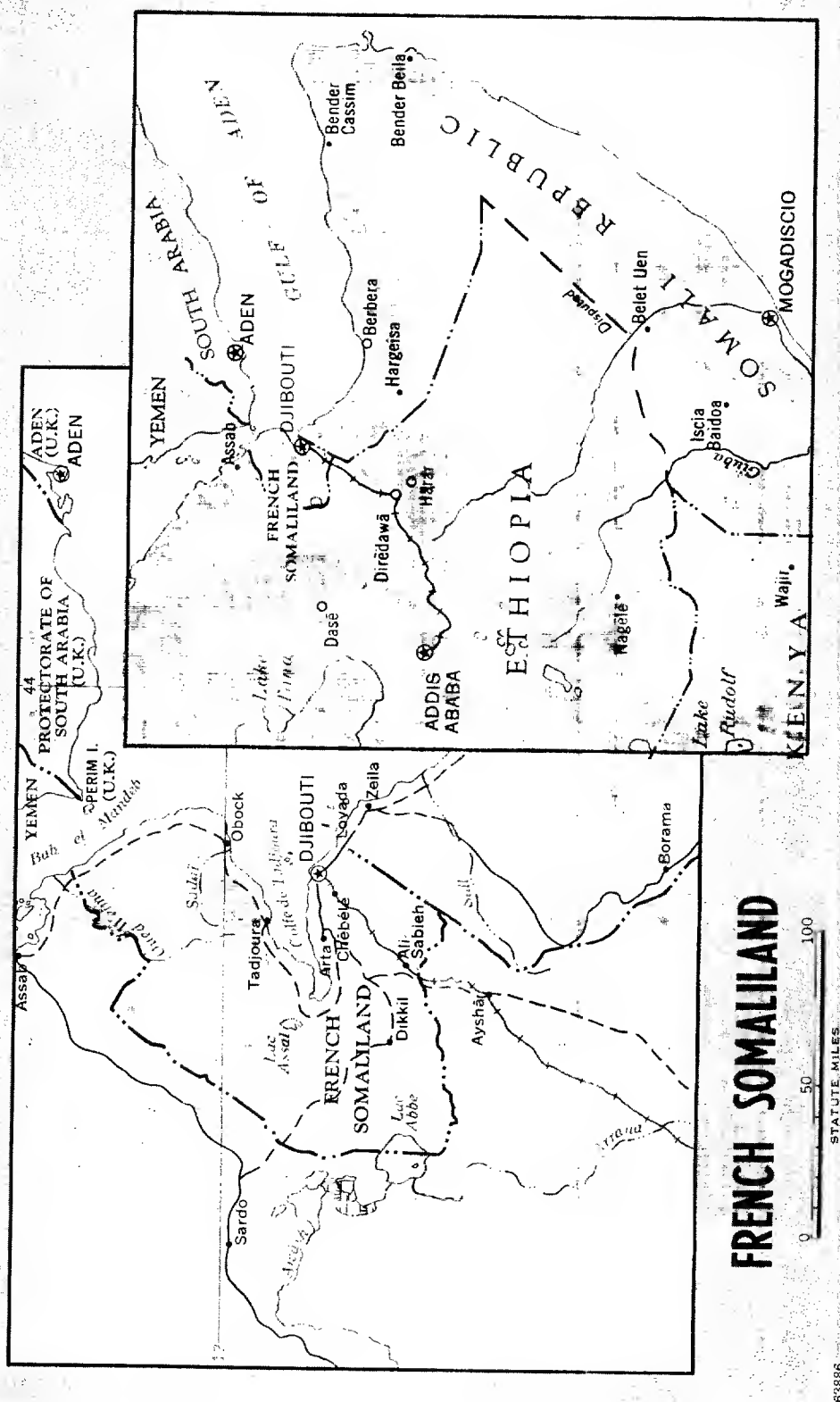
Nine flights of US aircraft were engaged by a total of 15 MIG-17s and five MIG-21s. US pilots reported destroying two MIG-17s with cannon fire and damaging one MIG-21 and two MIG-17s. There were no US air losses attributable to the North Vietnamese fighter activity.

Yesterday's engagements provided the most conclusive evidence to date that North Vietnamese MIG-21s are using heat-seeking air-to-air missiles. In two encounters US fliers observed red or orange missiles under the wings of the MIG-21s. Two of the missiles--believed to be the Soviet-supplied version of the US Sidewinder--were unsuccessfully fired at US aircraft during one of the engagements.

Military Developments in South Vietnam: No major contact has been reported during the past 24 hours in any of the 34 battalion-sized or larger allied/South Vietnamese search-and-destroy operations currently in progress.

Communist forces yesterday attacked the US airstrip at Chu Lai with an estimated 20 rounds of 82-mm. mortar fire. According to preliminary casualty reports, 16 US personnel were wounded, one seriously. In addition, eight USMC A-4E jet attack aircraft received minor damage. [REDACTED]

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French Somaliland: De Gaulle's decision to hold an independence referendum in French Somaliland will sharply increase tensions between Ethiopia and Somali Republic, both of which claim the territory.

The decision to hold a vote before next July follows an outbreak of demonstrations for independence during De Gaulle's visit in late August, and a second outbreak last week. [REDACTED]

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The fact that France might withdraw has whetted the appetites of the territory's two neighbors. Emperor Haile Selassie announced categorically on 16 September that French Somaliland was an integral part of Ethiopia. The terminus of the French-run Djibouti - Addis Ababa railroad, Ethiopia's sole rail access to the sea, is in French Somaliland. Mogadiscio, long bent on uniting all ethnic Somalis with the Republic, fears that the territory will be swallowed up by Ethiopia and has publicly warned that any Ethiopian venture into the territory would result in war. [REDACTED]

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Brazil: Student demonstrations in most of Brazil's principal cities threaten to become a major embarrassment to the government.

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On 20 September students in Sao Paulo defied a government ban by launching a protest march which attracted popular support and took police several hours to disperse. [redacted] the students were seeking a confrontation with police and were prepared for violence. Elementary school children and high school students joined the demonstration. More than 300 students were arrested. Police also broke up a demonstration yesterday in Goiania.

Earlier this month students at several universities stayed away from classes to protest the imposition of small tuition fees and other minor issues. Subsequent student agitation was prompted primarily by heavy-handed action by university authorities and security forces. Many students who normally favor the Castello Branco government now have joined the protest.

Further demonstrations are likely today in response to a call by the illegal National Union of Students for nationwide joint student action. [redacted]

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NOTES

Indonesia: General Suharto evidently is using anti-Sukarno student activity to keep the President on the defensive and to remind the public of the murder of six army generals last October. The army, although giving no sign of being ready to oust Sukarno, continues to bypass his wishes as in the move to re-enter the UN. The drive to discredit Sukarno will reach a new peak next month when his chief lieutenant, former foreign minister Subandrio, goes on trial. [REDACTED]

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USSR- Egypt: A nine-man Soviet economic planning delegation arrived in Cairo on 17 September. One report indicates that the team came at the request of President Nasir to survey Egypt's economic plight "from a socialist point of view" and report on what should be done. The delegation's visit closely follows Egypt's recent cabinet shake-up, which some observers believe has reinforced the strength of doctrinaire Arab Socialist elements in the Egyptian Government. [REDACTED]

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Cuba-Italy: An Italian firm has agreed to sell Cuba \$10 million worth of fertilizer a year for seven years as well as a fertilizer plant worth \$15 million to \$20 million, contingent on the satisfactory arrangement of credits. The Castro regime is counting on large fertilizer imports from Western countries to help it reach an annual sugar production of 10 million tons by 1970. Another Italian firm sold Cuba \$10 million worth of fertilizer last February. [REDACTED]

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE

The United States Intelligence Board, on 19 September 1966, approved the following special national intelligence estimate:

SNIE 86.2-2-66, "Prospects for Stability in
the Dominican Republic"

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